



H.R. 3087 – To require the President, in coordination with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior military leaders, to develop and transmit to Congress a comprehensive strategy for the redeployment of United States Armed Forces in Iraq

FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 3087 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative John Tanner (D-TN) on July 18, 2007. The Committee on Armed Services approved the bill, as amended, by a vote of 55 to 2 on July 27, 2007.

H.R. 3087 is expected to be considered on the floor on October 2, 2007.

SUMMARY

H.R. 3087 requires that, no later than 60 days after the enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter, the Secretary of Defense must submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the status and planning for the redeployment of the Armed Forces from Iraq. This report will be unclassified but may contain a classified annex if necessary.

No later than 14 days after the initial report is submitted to the congressional defense committees, the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff are required to brief the committees on the contents of the report. No later than 14 days after the subsequent reports are submitted to the congressional defense committees, appropriate senior officials from the Department of Defense are required to brief the committees on the contents of the reports.

The requirement to provide reports to the congressional defense committees will cease on the date on which the Secretary of Defense submits to the congressional defense committees a certification that the Armed Forces are no longer primarily engaged in a combat mission in Iraq.

The bill lists 4 findings of Congress:

- The Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 (Public Law 107-243), enacted into law on October 16, 2002, authorized the President to use the Armed Forces as the President determined necessary and appropriate in order to defend the national security of the United States against the continuing threat posed by the Government of Iraq at that time;

- The Government of Iraq which was in power at the time the Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq Resolution of 2002 was enacted into law has been removed from power and its leader indicted, tried, convicted, and executed by the new freely-elected democratic Government of Iraq;
- The current Government of Iraq does not pose a threat to the United States or its interests; and
- After more than four years of valiant efforts by members of the Armed Forces and United States civilians, the Government of Iraq must now be responsible for Iraq's future course.

The bill also lists a Sense of Congress that:

- Nothing in this Act shall be construed as a recommendation by Congress that any particular contingency plan be exercised;
- It is necessary and prudent for the Department of Defense to undertake robust and comprehensive contingency planning;
- Contingency planning for a redeployment of the Armed Forces from Iraq should address:
 - ensuring appropriate protection for the Armed Forces in Iraq;
 - providing appropriate protection in Iraq for United States civilians, contractors, third party nationals, and Iraqi nationals who have assisted the United States' mission in Iraq;
 - maintaining and enhancing the ability of the United States Government to eliminate and disrupt Al Qaeda and affiliated terrorist organizations; and
 - preserving military equipment necessary to defend the national security interests of the United States.
- Contingency planning for a redeployment of the Armed Forces from Iraq should:
 - Describe a range of possible scenarios for such redeployment;
 - Outline multiple possible timetables for such redeployment; and
 - Describe the possible missions, and the associated projected number of members, of the Armed Forces which would remain in Iraq, including to:

- Conduct United States military operations to protect vital United States national security interests;
- Conduct counterterrorism operations against Al Qaeda in Iraq and affiliated terrorist organizations;
- Protect the Armed Forces, United States diplomatic and military facilities, and United States civilians; and,
- Support and equip Iraqi forces to take full responsibility for their own security.

BACKGROUND

Shortly before Memorial Day, the President signed into law (PL 110-28), an emergency troop funding measure requiring General David Petraeus to report to Congress on September 15 regarding the progress in Iraq.

On September 10, 2007, General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker testified before Congress, providing the most accurate, credible and up-to-date assessment of the security and political realities in Iraq. Their assessments presented Congress with an opportunity to put aside politics and come together to build on these widely-acknowledged security and political gains and bring our troops home after success, not failure.

COST

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that the bill would not have a significant budgetary impact.

[CBO Estimate – H.R. 3087](#)

STAFF CONTACT

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